



Alexandra LUGOVA (Université Savoie Mont Blanc, IREGE)

Increasing retirement age and mental health of older workers: the role of working conditions

In this paper we investigate the effect of delaying retirement age on late-career mental health. We contribute to the recent literature on this issue by examining how this effect varies depending on workers' working conditions, exploiting exogenous data on job quality. Using pension reforms in several European countries, longitudinal data from the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) and the European Working Conditions Survey, we find that extending work horizon increases depression among older workers overall, but this effect is very dependent on working conditions. In particular, both female and male workers employed in lower-skilled jobs with less autonomy and decision-making power experience a greater increase in depression symptoms. Moreover, certain working conditions are more conducive to an increase in depression symptoms among men (e.g. high job intensity, poor social environment), while others play a greater role among women (e.g. poor physical conditions).

Keywords: mental health, older workers, pension reforms, working conditions

Co authors: Michele Belloni, Bérangère Legendre, Jérémy Tanguy

❖ 12h30 – Salle 103 / Comodal

❖ Participer à la réunion Zoom

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❖ Calendrier des séminaires

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